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	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
Notice of Allowability	09/862,894	NAKAMURA ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Zeev Kitov	2836	
The MAILING DATE of this communication appe All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RI of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313	(OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this app or other appropriate communication GHTS. This application is subject to	olication. If not include will be mailed in due	ed course. THIS
1. This communication is responsive to <u>04/02/04</u> .			
2. The allowed claim(s) is/are <u>1 - 9, 13, 14</u> .			
3. \square The drawings filed on <u>22 May 2001</u> are accepted by the Ex	aminer.		
 4. Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority unally All b) Some* c) None of the: 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)). 	been received. been received in Application No		tion from the
* Certified copies not received:			
Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" on noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONM THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.	of this communication to file a reply of ENT of this application.	complying with the rec	quirements
5. A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submi INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which give	tted. Note the attached EXAMINER' is reason(s) why the oath or declara	S AMENDMENT or N tion is deficient.	OTICE OF
 CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") mus (a) including changes required by the Notice of Draftspers 1) hereto or 2) to Paper No./Mail Date (b) including changes required by the attached Examiner's Paper No./Mail Date Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1. each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the deposit of the deposit o	on's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-9 s Amendment / Comment or in the O 84(c)) should be written on the drawin he header according to 37 CFR 1.121(c sit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL m	ffice action of legs in the front (not the l). nust be submitted. N	
Attachment(s) 1. Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 2. Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 3. Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)	6. Interview Summary Paper No./Mail Date	 5. Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) 6. Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date 7. Examiner's Amendment/Comment)-152)
Paper No./Mail Date 4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material	8. Examiner's Stateme 9. Other GREGU		wance

Application/Control Number: 09/862,894

Art Unit: 2836

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

Examiner acknowledges a submission of the amendment and arguments filed on April 2, 2004. Claim 15 is deleted. Amendment has overcome rejections of the only Claim 15 under 103(a).

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Claims 1-9 and 13-14 recite, inter alia, a protection circuit for a junction field effect transistor for protection against a surge breakdown comprising a Schottky barrier diode array having a plurality of forward direction first diodes and reverse direction second diodes are cascade-connected wherein a gate electrode of the FET is grounded through the diode array.

Tsuzuki discloses a protection circuit (Fig. 10) for a field effect transistor (22) for protection against a surge breakdown comprising a diode array (73) having a plurality of forward direction first diodes and reverse direction second diodes are cascade-connected wherein a gate electrode of the FET is grounded through the diode array but doesn't specify that the diode array is a Schottky barrier diode array. As to Schottky barrier diodes, they are widely used in the electronic circuits as switching devices due to their fast switching characteristics. However, use of Schottky barrier diodes connected in reverse direction, as recited in the claims, was not found in the available prior art of the record.

Art Unit: 2836

The references of record do not teach or suggest the aforementioned limitation, nor would it be obvious to modify those references to include such limitation.

Allowability resides, at least in part, in the above-described limitations, which has not been disclosed in the Prior Art in a search.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Zeev Kitov whose telephone number is (571) 272-2052. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00 – 4:30. If attempts to reach examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Brian Sircus can be reached on (571) 272 – 2800, Ext. 36. The fax phone number for organization where this application or proceedings is assigned is (703) 872-9306 for all communications.

Z.K. 06/03/2004

GREGORY I. TOATLEY, JR. PRIMARY EXAMINER